

## REMARKS


This application is a continuation of 09/942,277, filed August 27, 2001, allowed July 28, 2003, which is a continuation of PCT/JP00/09016, filed December 20, 2000, allowed October 4, 2001.

Prior to issuance of a first Office Action in the present continuation application, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner review the arguments presented in the parent case in opposition to rejection of the present claims.

Early examination of the claims on their merits is earnestly solicited.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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## **CUSTOMER NUMBER 026304**

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